

Senate Resolution 365

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Pearson of the 51st, Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th, Hill of the 32nd, Goggans of the 7th and others

ADOPTED

A RESOLUTION

Creating the Joint Study Committee on Transportation Funding; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, transportation is a critical resource in the State of Georgia in providing a high quality of life for residents across the state; and

WHEREAS, transportation is essential to commerce and the provision of goods and services to the people of this state, to getting the citizens of Georgia to the workplace, medical facilities, and educational facilities, to the tourism industry, and to every facet of the lives of Georgia citizens; and

WHEREAS, finding the necessary funds to maintain and improve our transportation systems and infrastructure is becoming increasingly difficult; and

WHEREAS, new sources and methods of funding transportation projects are needed to allow the transportation systems in Georgia to keep up with the needs of the population; and

WHEREAS, the General Assembly needs to study these issues to determine alternative funding mechanisms for transportation projects and special funding sources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on Transportation Funding to be composed of eight members. The committee shall be composed of the chairperson of the Senate Transportation Committee, the chairperson of the House Committee on Transportation, three members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, and three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The chairperson of the Senate Transportation Committee and the chairperson of the House Committee on Transportation shall serve as cochairpersons of the committee. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions or legislation that the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than six days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to pay the allowances for the members of the committee shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and the Senate. The funds necessary to pay all other expenses incurred by the committee shall come from the funds appropriated to the Department of Transportation. The Department of Transportation is authorized and directed to provide the committee with such logistical, professional, and other support as the committee deems appropriate to carry out the committee's duties under this resolution. In the event that the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2007. The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2007.